

Incidentally it may be here observed, that the discovery of a very particular *Sloanea* in New Guinea (*S. paradisearum*, F.v.M., *Papuan Plants*, I., 84) has strengthened the view, expressed by the writer of these lines already in 1864, that *Echinocarpus* should be subjugated to *Sloanea*. This opinion is also shared by Dr. von Szyszyłowicz, who in a recent study of *Tiliaceæ* (*Englers's Botanische Jahrbuecher* VI., 454) likewise unites *Echinocarpus* with *Sloanea*, but, who, on the same occasion, felt inclined to refer *Aristotelia Braithwaitii*, F.v.M. (*Wing's Southern Science Record*, Aug., 1881) to *Elæocarpus*, not having seen specimens which would have demonstrated to this excellent investigator the intenableity of that opinion.

NOTICE OF A FISH APPARENTLY UNDESCRIBED,

BY

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HITHERTO, the shores of Western and Southern Asia have alone yielded those few forms of the *Scorpænida* which have been distinguished under the general title *Apistus*. One species inhabits the Red Sea, and has been whimsically named *israelitarum*; the other entering the Pacific is a frequenter of the Indian coasts. Both have the pectoral fins developed as organs of flight; they agree also in having the anterior portion of the dorsal fin composed of fifteen spines. To these, the fish now brought under notice, through the instrumentality of Mr. R. A. Bulcock—a young observer of the fauna of Moreton Bay—is closely allied; and, notwithstanding that it differs in two structural features of some importance, namely, in having but

fourteen spines in the dorsal fin, and the pectoral reduced to a size unfitting it for an organ of flight: I refer it to the same genus *Apistus* because it appears to me preferable to relax somewhat the character of a genus founded on two species only, rather than burden the system with a new one, which does not seem absolutely necessary. The following are the specific characters of this fish, which may from the place of its capture be called—

APISTUS CALOUNDRA,

D. 14/9, A. 3/7, Lat. 55, Tr. 7/17.

Pectorals moderately elongate, reaching to the third anal spine. Dorsals emarginate between the spinous and soft portions. A broadly white-edged black blotch between the ninth and twelfth spines of the dorsal—top of the webs between the first two spines also black. Upper surface of the snout, a broad band across the occiput, a narrow curved band from the snout through the edge to the base of the opercular spine, two large blotches on the upper part of the trunk connected and apparently traversed by three longitudinal bands, two horizontal bands on the soft dorsal, three vertical bands on the caudal, and the lower third of the pectoral more or less black.

The preorbital has in front two short spines directed forwards and the angle armed with a curved daggerlike spine broader than that at the angle of the preopercle. The mandible is furnished with two pairs of short tentacles. The height of the body is one-fifth of the total length; the length of the head three and two-thirds in the same. The orbit is $4\frac{1}{3}$ in the head, and the interorbit $1\frac{1}{3}$ in the orbit. The pectoral appendage is as long as the snout, the scales radiately ctenoid and very handsome.
